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Item 5(a) of the provisional agenda

Citrus fruit

The following document contains the Report of the working group on establishing a lineage of varieties of citrus fruit and labelling as well as proposed changes to the Standard on Citrus fruit (FFV-14)

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Meeting of the Working Group on establishing a lineage of varieties of citrus fruit and labelling
(Geneva, Switzerland, 6 November 2014)

REPORT

1. The delegations of France, Italy, Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States participated in the meeting.

2. Mr. Shawn Coetzee from South Africa chaired the meeting.

3. The agenda, presentations and the present report are available on the UNECE website at: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=34063#/

4. The overall purpose of the meeting was to formulate proposals on how to change the "Definition of produce" and "Provisions concerning marking" in the Standard for Citrus Fruit to make labelling of citrus fruit packages unambiguous and easy to follow. The discussion during the meeting focused on agreeing on the classification of citrus fruit which would be simple enough for inspection services to check consistency between the labelling and the content of packages.

5. To guide the discussion, Mr. Graham Barry from South African citrus industry gave a presentation on the lineage and nomenclature of citrus cultivars. The complexity of the citrus fruit lineage makes it practically impossible for inspectors to distinguish between varieties and hybrids, especially in the mandarin group.

6. It was agreed that the labelling provisions in the UNECE Standard should be clarified and simplified. The proposed wording of the revised sections on the "Definition of produce" and "Provisions concerning marking" is presented in the annex.

7. The delegations agreed that there was a need for an updatable List of Varieties associated with the Standard. It does not need to be part of the Standard. Although the aim should be to make it universal, it does not need to be exhaustive. Mr. Graham Barry volunteered to compile first draft of the list, representing varieties traded internationally. The maintenance of the list would need to be discussed at a later stage.

8. Some countries maintain their own lists of varieties. The Italian list can be consulted at: www.agrumicoltura.it/cultivar.aspx

9. The Working Group asked the secretariat to circulate the report through the ListServer and ask counties to provide their feedback on the proposals by mid-February 2015 at the latest.

10. The Working Group decided that the final version of the proposed changes to the Standard should be ready by 23 March for submission to the meeting of the Specialized Section to be held from 21 to 24 April 2015.

Proposed changes to UNECE Standard FFV-14 Citrus fruit

I. Definition of produce[1]

This standard applies to the following varieties (cultivars) of fruit, classified as "citrus fruit", to be supplied fresh to the consumer, citrus fruit for industrial processing being excluded:

- lemons grown from the species *Citrus limon* (L.) Burm. f. **and hybrids thereof**
- Persian limes grown from the species *Citrus latifolia* (Yu. Tanaka) Tanaka, a large-fruited acid lime known also as Bearss or Tahiti and hybrids thereof
- Mexican limes grown from the species *Citrus aurantifolia (*Christm.*)* Swingle, also known as key limes and sour limes and hybrids thereof
- Indian sweet limes, Palestine sweet limes grown from the species *Citrus limettioides* Tanaka
- mandarins (*Citrus reticulata* Blanco), including satsumas (*Citrus unshiu* Marcow.), clementines (*Citrus clementina* hort. ex Tanaka), common mandarins (*Citrus deliciosa* Ten.) and tangerines (*Citrus tangerina* Tanaka), grown from these species and hybrids thereof
- oranges grown from the species *Citrus sinensis* (L.) Osbeck **and hybrids thereof**
- grapefruit grown from the species *Citrus paradisi* Macfad. and hybrids thereof
- pummelos or Shaddock grown from the species *Citrus maxima* (Burm.) Merr. and hybrids thereof.

[1] All information on botanical names is taken from the GRIN database. See www.ars-grin.gov

VI. Provisions concerning marking

Each package[2] must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside:

B. Nature of produce

- Common name of the species[3]:
  - **If the produce is not visible from the outside, then the common name of the species is required**
  - **If the produce is visible from the outside, then the common name of the species is not required, but it is optional[4]**
- "Mixture of citrus fruit" or equivalent denomination and common names of the different species, in case of a mixture of citrus fruit of distinctly different species
- **For oranges: the name of the variety or variety group[5] is required**
- **For mandarins:**
  - **For satsumas: the name of the variety group, e.g. "*Satsumas*", is required. The variety name is optional[6]**
  - **For clementines: the name of the variety group, e.g. "*Clementines*", is required. The variety name is optional[7]**
    - "With seeds" for clementines with more than 10 seeds per fruit
    - "Seedless" (optional)[8]
  - **For all other mandarins and their hybrids: "*Mandarins*" or "*Tangerines*", plus the variety name** (or should the variety name be optional?)
- For grapefruit and hybrids: the indication "pink" or "red" where appropriate. **The variety name is optional**
- For pummelos and hybrids: the indication "pink" or "red" where appropriate. **The variety name is optional**
- **For lemons: the common name of the species, e.g. "*Lemons*", is required. The variety name is optional**
- **For limes: the common name of the species, e.g. "*Limes*", is required. The variety name is optional**
- **The name of the variety can be replaced by a synonym.**

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[2] These marking provisions do not apply to sales packages presented in packages.

[3] **For example: "Oranges", "Lemons", "Limes", "Grapefruit", "Pummelos", "Mandarins", "Tangerines", "Clementines", "Satsumas", etc.**

[4] **Comment by Gh. Barry – "...we should do away with the two options and have only the following option: "Whether the produce is visible from the outside or not visible from the outside, the common name of the species is required.""**

[5] **For example: "Navels", "Valencias", "Sanguinelli", "Tarocco", etc.**

[6] **For example: "*Owari Satsuma*" is optional.**

[7] **For example: "*Nules Clementine*" is optional.**

[8] Seedless citrus fruit may occasionally contain seeds.